

SENATE BILL No. 59

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 9-18.

Synopsis: Year of manufacture antique license plates. Allows a person who registers a motor vehicle as an antique motor vehicle to furnish and display on the vehicle an authentic license plate or a reproduction of an authentic license plate from the model year. Provides that two authentic or reproduction license plates must be displayed on the vehicle if the model year of the vehicle was a year during which two plates were required. Makes conforming changes.

Effective: January 1, 2002.

Wyss, Hume

January 8, 2001, read first time and referred to Committee on Transportation and Interstate Cooperation.

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First Regular Session 112th General Assembly (2001)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2000 General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 59

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning motor vehicles.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 9-18-2-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
2 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2002]: Sec. 7. (a) A person who owns a
3 vehicle subject to registration shall register each vehicle owned by the
4 person as follows:
- 5 (1) A vehicle subject to section 8 of this chapter shall be
6 registered under section 8.
- 7 (2) A vehicle not subject to section 8 of this chapter or to the
8 International Registration Plan shall be registered before:
- 9 (A) March 1 of each year; or
10 (B) an earlier date subsequent to January 1 of each year as set
11 by the bureau.
- 12 (3) School buses owned by a school corporation are exempt from
13 annual registration but are subject to registration under
14 IC 20-9.1-4.
- 15 (4) Subject to subsection (f), a vehicle subject to the International
16 Registration Plan shall be registered before April 1 of each year.
- 17 (b) Registrations and re-registrations under this section are for the



calendar year. Registration and re-registration for school buses owned by a school corporation may be for more than a calendar year.

(c) License plates for a vehicle subject to this section may be displayed during:

- (1) the calendar year for which the vehicle is registered; and
- (2) the period of time:
 - (A) subsequent to the calendar year; and
 - (B) before the date that the vehicle must be re-registered.

(d) **Except as provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5**, a person who owns or operates a vehicle may not operate or permit the operation of a vehicle that:

- (1) is required to be registered under this chapter; and
- (2) has expired license plates.

(e) If a vehicle that is required to be registered under this chapter has:

- (1) been operated on the highways; and
- (2) not been properly registered under this chapter;

the bureau shall, before the vehicle is re-registered, collect the registration fee that the owner of the vehicle would have paid if the vehicle had been properly registered.

(f) The department of state revenue may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to issue staggered registration to motor vehicles subject to the International Registration Plan.

SECTION 2. IC 9-18-2-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2002]: Sec. 8. (a) The bureau shall register vehicles under the schedule in this section.

(b) **Except as provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5**, a person who owns a vehicle shall receive a license plate, renewal tag, or other indicia upon registration of the vehicle. The bureau may determine the device required to be displayed.

(c) A corporation shall register, before February 1 of each year, the following vehicles that are owned by the corporation:

- (1) A passenger motor vehicle that is not regularly rented to others for not more than twenty-nine (29) days in the regular course of the corporation's business.
- (2) A recreational vehicle.
- (3) A motorcycle.
- (4) A truck that:
 - (A) is not regularly rented to others for not more than twenty-nine (29) days in the regular course of the corporation's business; and
 - (B) has a declared gross weight of not more than eleven

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- 1 thousand (11,000) pounds.
- 2 (d) A corporation that owns a:
- 3 (1) passenger motor vehicle; or
- 4 (2) truck that has a declared gross weight of not more than eleven
- 5 thousand (11,000) pounds;
- 6 that is regularly rented to others for periods of not more than
- 7 twenty-nine (29) days in the regular course of the corporation's
- 8 business must register the passenger motor vehicle or truck before
- 9 March 1 of each year.
- 10 (e) A person who owns a:
- 11 (1) passenger motor vehicle;
- 12 (2) recreational vehicle;
- 13 (3) motorcycle; or
- 14 (4) truck that has a declared gross weight of not more than eleven
- 15 thousand (11,000) pounds;
- 16 that is not subject to the registration requirements under subsection (d)
- 17 shall register the passenger motor vehicle, recreational vehicle,
- 18 motorcycle, or truck in conformance with the schedule set forth in
- 19 subsection (f).
- 20 (f) The following schedule applies to persons who own vehicles that
- 21 are required to be registered under subsection (e):
- 22 (1) Persons whose last names begin with the letters A through B,
- 23 inclusive, shall register before March 1 of each year.
- 24 (2) Persons whose last names begin with the letters C through D,
- 25 inclusive, shall register before April 1 of each year.
- 26 (3) Persons whose last names begin with the letters E through G,
- 27 inclusive, shall register before May 1 of each year.
- 28 (4) Persons whose last names begin with the letters H through I,
- 29 inclusive, shall register before June 1 of each year.
- 30 (5) Persons whose last names begin with the letters J through L,
- 31 inclusive, shall register before July 1 of each year.
- 32 (6) Persons whose last names begin with the letters M through O,
- 33 inclusive, shall register before August 1 of each year.
- 34 (7) Persons whose last names begin with the letters P through R,
- 35 inclusive, shall register before September 1 of each year.
- 36 (8) Persons whose last names begin with the letters S through T,
- 37 inclusive, shall register before October 1 of each year.
- 38 (9) Persons whose last names begin with the letters U through Z,
- 39 inclusive, shall register before November 1 of each year.
- 40 (g) A person who owns a vehicle required to be registered under
- 41 subsection (c), (d), or (e) and who desires to register the vehicle for the
- 42 first time must apply to the bureau for a registration application form.

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The bureau shall do the following:

- (1) Administer the registration application form.
- (2) Issue the license plate.
- (3) Collect the proper registration and service fees in accordance with the procedure established by the bureau.

(h) **Except as provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5**, the bureau shall issue a semipermanent plate under section 30 of this chapter, or:

- (1) an annual renewal tag; or
- (2) other indicia;

to be affixed on the semipermanent plate.

SECTION 3. IC 9-18-2-26 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2002]: Sec. 26. (a) **Except as provided in IC 9-18-12-2.5**, license plates shall be displayed as follows:

- (1) For a motorcycle, trailer, semitrailer, or recreational vehicle, upon the rear of the vehicle.
- (2) For a farm tractor or tractor, upon the front of the vehicle.
- (3) For every other vehicle, upon the rear of the vehicle.

(b) A license plate shall be securely fastened, in a horizontal position, to the vehicle for which the plate is issued:

- (1) to prevent the license plate from swinging;
- (2) at a height of at least twelve (12) inches from the ground, measuring from the bottom of the license plate;
- (3) in a place and position that are clearly visible;
- (4) maintained free from foreign materials and in a condition to be clearly legible; and
- (5) not obstructed or obscured by tires, bumpers, accessories, or other opaque objects.

(c) The bureau may adopt rules the bureau considers advisable to enforce the proper mounting and securing of license plates on vehicles consistent with this chapter.

SECTION 4. IC 9-18-2-27 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2002]: Sec. 27. (a) Except as provided in ~~subsection~~ **subsections (b) and (c)**, a vehicle required to be registered under this chapter may not be used or operated upon the highways if the motor vehicle displays any of the following:

- (1) A registration number belonging to any other vehicle.
- (2) A fictitious registration number.
- (3) A sign or placard bearing the words "license applied for" or "in transit" or other similar signs.

(b) Any other number may be displayed for any lawful purpose upon a:

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- (1) motor vehicle;
- (2) trailer;
- (3) semitrailer; or
- (4) recreational vehicle;

in addition to the license plates issued by the bureau under this chapter.

(c) If a vehicle is registered as an antique motor vehicle under IC 9-18-12, an authentic or reproduction Indiana license plate from the vehicle's model year may be displayed on the vehicle under IC 9-18-12-2.5.

SECTION 5. IC 9-18-2-48 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2002]: Sec. 48. (a) The commissioner may enter into a contract or an agreement authorizing a person to create and use a reproduction of a license plate issued under this article.

(b) **Except as provided in subsection (d)**, a person may not create or use a reproduction of a license plate issued under this article unless the creation or use of the reproduction is expressly authorized in writing by the commissioner. The commissioner may impose under IC 4-21.5 a civil penalty upon a person who violates this subsection. The amount of a civil penalty imposed under this subsection:

- (1) shall be determined by the commissioner; and
- (2) may not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

(c) Money paid to the bureau as:

- (1) compensation to the state under a contract or an agreement entered into under subsection (a); or
- (2) a civil penalty imposed under subsection (b);

shall be collected and deposited according to IC 9-29-1-1.

(d) If a vehicle is registered as an antique motor vehicle under IC 9-18-12, a reproduction of a license plate from the vehicle's model year may be displayed on the vehicle under IC 9-18-12-2.5.

SECTION 6. IC 9-18-12-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2002]: Sec. 2. (a) **Except as provided in section 2.5 of this chapter**, the bureau shall issue one (1) license plate to the person who owns an antique motor vehicle that is registered under this chapter.

(b) A license plate for an antique motor vehicle shall be:

- (1) manufactured of embossed steel; and
- (2) painted a cream color.

(c) The lettering imprinted on a license plate issued under this chapter shall:

- (1) be painted in red;
- (2) contain:

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- 1 (A) the registration number assigned to the registration
 2 certificate by the bureau; and
 3 (B) the words "Historic Motor Vehicle, State of Indiana"; and
 4 (3) indicate the year for which the antique motor vehicle has been
 5 registered.

6 (d) Instead of issuing a new license plate each time that an antique
 7 motor vehicle is registered, the bureau may issue to the person who
 8 owns the antique motor vehicle a tag or sticker that indicates the year
 9 for which the motor vehicle has been registered.

10 (e) A license plate issued under this ~~chapter~~ **section** shall be
 11 securely attached to the rear of an antique motor vehicle.

12 SECTION 7. IC 9-18-12-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 13 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 14 JANUARY 1, 2002]: **Sec. 2.5. (a) A person who registers an antique**
 15 **motor vehicle under this chapter may furnish and display on the**
 16 **vehicle an Indiana license plate from the vehicle's model year.**

17 (b) A license plate furnished and displayed under this section
 18 must be either:

- 19 (1) an authentic license plate from the vehicle's model year; or
 20 (2) a reproduction of an authentic license plate required
 21 during the vehicle's model year that is identical to the
 22 authentic license plate in material, size, form, and colors.

23 (c) Before a license plate is mounted on an antique motor vehicle
 24 under this section, the bureau shall inspect the license plate to
 25 determine whether the license plate:

- 26 (1) complies with this section; and
 27 (2) is in suitable condition to be displayed.

28 (d) If an Indiana license plate from the vehicle's model year is
 29 displayed on a motor vehicle registered as an antique motor vehicle
 30 under this chapter, the current certificate of registration of the
 31 motor vehicle must at all times be kept in the vehicle and made
 32 available for inspection upon the demand of a police officer.
 33 Notwithstanding IC 9-18-2-21, this subsection is not satisfied by
 34 keeping a reproduction of the certificate of registration in the
 35 vehicle or making a reproduction of the certificate of registration
 36 available for inspection.

37 (e) The bureau shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 that list the
 38 years during which two (2) license plates were required for motor
 39 vehicles registered in Indiana. If:

- 40 (1) a vehicle is registered as an antique motor vehicle under
 41 this chapter; and
 42 (2) the model year of the vehicle is a year during which two

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1 **(2) license plates were required for motor vehicles registered**
2 **in Indiana;**
3 **an Indiana license plate from the vehicle's model year may not be**
4 **displayed on the vehicle under this section unless two (2) identical**
5 **Indiana license plates from the vehicle's model year plates are**
6 **displayed on the vehicle.**

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